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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : TERASHIMA et al.
Serial No : 08/964,257
Confirm. No. :
Filed : November 4, 1997
For : APPARATUS EQUIPPED...
Art Unit : 2622
Examiner : M. Nguyen
Dated : January 30, 2002

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Hon. Commissioner of Patents
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Washington, D.C. 20231

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Attached please find Form PTO-1449 together with the references as listed below. All of the below listed references were cited in a Japanese office action pertaining to Japanese Patent Application 08-292829, from which this above listed U.S. Application claims priority. An English translation of the Japanese Office Action is enclosed. English abstracts are provided for each of the Japanese language patents.

- JP 08-143189 describes a paper guiding device to reliably feed paper into an electronic apparatus utilizing guide plates. This document was cited by the Japanese Examiner as a document relating to the novelty of Japanese Patent Application 08-292829 if combined with the knowledge of a person generally skilled in the art.

- JP 07-046368 describes a paper feeder designed to reduce the generation of troubles encountered by paper feeding systems, and to improve the sealing properties of the feed system

for cut sheets of paper, especially to prevent the entry of dust into the equipment. This document was cited by the Japanese Examiner as a document relating to the novelty of Japanese Patent Application 08-292829 if combined with the knowledge of a person generally skilled in the art.

-JP 08-133531 describes a paper tray for image forming equipment designed to prevent yellowing or staining of the recording paper in the tray. This document was cited by the Japanese Examiner as a document relating to the novelty of Japanese Patent Application 08-292829 if combined with the knowledge of a person generally skilled in the art.

-JP 63-197682 describes a personal word processor incorporating a means for a detachable printing device where input/output controls are established using corresponding engageable connectors on both the word processor and printing device. This document was cited by the Japanese Examiner as a document relating to the novelty of Japanese Patent Application 08-292829 if combined with the knowledge of a person generally skilled in the art.

-JP 08-198480 describes a foldable paper sheet tray designed to resist damage if overloaded by allowing the tray to fold down or collapse without damage if a predetermined load is exceed. This document was cited as general prior art for Japanese Patent Application 08-292829.

Favorable action on the merits of this application is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted
for Applicant,

By:


John James McGlew
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McGLEY AND TUTTLE, P.C.

JJM:esd

Enclosed: -PTO-1449 Form
-English Translation of Japanese Office Action pertaining to Japanese Priority Application 08-292829
-Cited References & English Abstracts of Cited References

DATED: January 30, 2002
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SHOULD ANY OTHER FEE BE REQUIRED, THE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE IS HEREBY REQUESTED TO CHARGE SUCH FEE TO OUR DEPOSIT ACCOUNT 13-0410.

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS CORRESPONDENCE IS BEING DEPOSITED WITH THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE AS EXPRESS MAIL IN AN ENVELOPE ADDRESSED TO: COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS, WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231, NO.: EL 601 509 462 US

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BY: Lori Ann Conte DATE: January 30, 2002

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